

From: [Hagenmaier, Elizabeth](#)
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Cc: [Stevens, Edie](#)
Subject: Response to FOIA 2020-000413
Date: Thursday, November 21, 2019 11:15:02 AM

Mr. Ostmeyer,

Per our phone call last Friday, I have the following information for the three EPA Region 7 Superfund sites in the Tri-State Mining District of Kansas, Missouri, and Oklahoma. This information is the most readily available information and the estimates are from March 2018. Other available documents are older and may not represent the most up-to-date information.

Following your review of the provided information, please let me know if you have any questions or would like to discuss.

CHEROKEE COUNTY, KS (TSMD)

The Cherokee County Site is located in southeast Kansas and represents the Kansas portion of the Tri-State Mining District which encompasses approximately 2,500 square miles of Missouri, Kansas, and Oklahoma. This site is 115 square miles and is divided into seven subsites and further organized into nine operable units. Past mining and milling practices have also resulted in the contamination of surface soil, sediments, surface water, and groundwater in the shallow aquifer. The primary contaminants of concern are lead, cadmium, and zinc.

OPERABLE UNIT	NATURE AND SCOPE OF PROBLEM	CURRENT STATUS	PAST COST	FUTURE COST
OU01 Galena Alternate Water Supply	Addresses impacted groundwater used for drinking water in Galena subsite	Two rural water wells were constructed and approximately 60 miles of pipeline placed to serve nearly 500 households.	EPA \$4.8M	O&M
OU02 Spring River Basin	Surface water and sediments in the Spring River basin. All subsites but Treece drain into the Spring River basin.	RI is ongoing and FS pilot studies are planned for 2019. HHRA is complete.	EPA RI/FS costs	Unknown (RI/FS). To include remedy for surface water and sediment in the Spring River watershed.
OU 03, OU 04, OU 07	Residential soil remediation	Remediation of 803 residential yards.	OU3/4 \$4.3M (PRP)	O&M
OU 03, OU 04, OU 05, and OU 06	Remediation of mine waste and contaminated soil in subsites	Remediation of over 12 million cubic yards and 2,747 acres. PRP completed cleanup of the former Eagle Picher smelter.	OU 03 - \$10M OU 04 - \$23M OU 05 - \$13.1M OU 06 - \$14.7M OU 07 - \$9.8M	OU 05, OU 06, OU 07 - O&M OU 03 - \$1-3M (Remaining piles and distal areas) OU 04 - \$50M (Tar Creek piles)
OU08 Railroads	Inactive rail lines within the site boundaries and not previously addressed under other actions.	RI/FS completed and RD ongoing	EPA ~ \$700K	\$16M ROD estimate
OU09 Tar Creek Watershed	Contaminated sediments in perennial Tar Creek from headwaters to confluence with Lytle Creek in Oklahoma	RI and HHRA is being completed by EPA R6. FS was started in September 2018.	EPA FS costs	Unknown (RI/FS)

NEWTON COUNTY MINE TAILINGS (TSMD)

The Newton County Mine Tailings Site is the northern half of Newton County, Missouri, and is part of the Tri-State Mining District which encompasses approximately 2,500 square miles of Missouri, Kansas, and Oklahoma. This site includes wastes in and around 14 mining camps located within approximately 300 square miles of Newton County. These locations have been grouped into five sub-districts each containing multiple mine waste areas is composed of eight large areas of mine waste in this rural region, approximately 110 square miles in size. Past mining and milling practices have also resulted in the contamination of surface soil, sediments, surface water, and groundwater in the shallow aquifer. The primary contaminants of concern are lead, cadmium, and zinc.

OPERABLE UNIT	NATURE AND SCOPE OF PROBLEM	CURRENT STATUS	PAST COST	FUTURE COST
OU01 Diamond, Spring City, and Granby sub-districts	Contaminated residential yard soil and the installation of public water supplies to replace the private residential water wells to address immediate health risk.	>100 miles of public water supply mains installed. 100 individual wells installed. completed cleanup at ~400 residential yards.	PRP expenditure? & \$1.4M EPA	N/A
OU2 Remainder of Newton County	Exposed mine and milling waste and contaminated soil in mine waste areas in all sub-districts.	Remediated 771,000 cubic yards and 100 acres. Estimated 2.3M cubic yards and 600 acres remaining.	\$21M EPA	~ \$44M

Oronogo-Duenweg Mining Belt Site, Jasper County, Missouri (TSMD)

The Oronogo-Duenweg Mining Belt Site is located in a former mining region known as the Tri-State Mining District, which includes over 500 square miles in southwest Missouri, southeast Kansas, and northeast Oklahoma. This site is composed of eleven large designated areas of mine waste located in approximately 250 square miles of Jasper County. Historically, over 150 million tons of metals contaminated wastes were left on the site. Additionally, as many as seventeen smelters operated for many years distributing airborne metals. Mining and smelting resulted in the widespread contamination of surface soil, surface water, and ground water.

OPERABLE UNIT	NATURE AND SCOPE OF PROBLEM	CURRENT STATUS	PAST COST	FUTURE COST
OU01 Mine waste piles	Numerous uncontrolled mine waste piles covering over 11,000 acres	Currently in RA. Over 4,500 acres remediated and over 15 million tons of wastes removed.	\$115M	\$50M (Remaining mine waste areas, including PRP bankruptcy areas)
OU02 Residential	Residential yards contaminated with	RA complete. Approximately	\$20M	None

properties – smelter area	heavy metals from smelting activities	2500 contaminated residential properties		
OU03 Residential properties – mining area	Residential yards contaminated with heavy metals from mining activities	RA complete. Approximately 300 contaminated residential properties	\$3M	None
OU04 Groundwater	Approximately 250 square mile of shallow aquifer contaminated with heavy metal used for private drinking water supplies	RA Complete. Private shallow aquifer wells replaced with public water supplies or deep aquifer well	\$10M	None
OU05 Spring River Watershed	Several hundred miles of streams and lake with metals contaminated sediments	RI/FS Phase. RI and FS are ongoing with pilot studies to be constructed in 2019.	\$1M	\$20M - \$50M

This is in response to your October 18, 2019, request for information regarding the Tri-State Mining District of Kansas, Missouri, and Oklahoma.

You may log in to FOIAonline and retrieve the record responsive to your request.

This email concludes our response to your request. You may appeal this response by email at hq.foia@epa.gov, or by mail to the National Freedom of Information Office, U.S. EPA, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. (2822T), Washington, DC 20460. Only items mailed through the United States Postal Service may be delivered to 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue. If you are submitting your appeal by hand delivery, courier service, or overnight delivery, you must address your correspondence to 1301 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Room 6416J, Washington, DC 20001. Your appeal must be in writing, and it must be received no later than 90 calendar days from the date of this letter. The Agency will not consider appeals received after the 90-calendar-day limit. Appeals received after 5:00 pm Eastern Time will be considered received the next business day. The appeal letter should include the FOIA tracking number listed above. For quickest possible handling, the subject line of your email, the appeal letter, and its envelope, if applicable, should be marked “Freedom of Information Act Appeal.” Additionally, you may seek dispute resolution services from EPA’s FOIA Public Liaison at hq.foia@epa.gov or 202-566-1667, or from the Office of Government Information Services. You may contact OGIS in any of the following ways: by mail, Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, Room 2510, 8610 Adelphi Road, College Park, MD 20740; email, ogis@nara.gov; telephone, 301-837-1996 or 877-684-6448; or fax, 301-837-0348.

If you have questions regarding this response, please contact Edie Stevens-Breckon, our FOIA Officer, at 913-551-7803.

Thanks so much,

Liz Hagenmaier
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